

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
National Wrestling Hall of Fame



2022 Induction Banquet
Foxwoods Resort and Casino

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WELCOME >

Connecticut Wrestling Family:

The National Wrestling Hall of Fame is committed to advancing awareness and appreciation for the history and heritage of wrestling in the state of Connecticut.

Your State Chapter program accomplishes its mission of preserving your state's history in wrestling by recognizing and inducting individuals who have inspired others through their years of service and commitment to the sport.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this enshrinement ceremony.

We believe that when properly informed, people will better understand what a wrestling life is all about. By sharing in this celebration and enshrinement ceremony, you are witnessing first-hand the impact our State Chapter programs and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame have upon the sport.

This ceremony gives us a platform to share our sports history and heritage with those individuals you are here to help us honor today, and those whose shoulders your wrestling communities have been built upon.

Our mission uniquely qualifies us to help shape public perception about our sport through the lives and stories of those we are here to enshrine. Our honorees have made an indelible impact upon our sport and our communities because of the lives they have transformed through a sport that welcomes everyone, no matter their size, ethnicity, physical limitations or gender.

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic with caution, we are fortunate to have the generous and outstanding volunteer leaders to manage and operate this program according to state and government protocols.

I also thank you for supporting our chapter, whose leadership is dedicated to celebrating and advancing the heritage of wrestling in the state of Connecticut for generations to come.

Sincerely yours in the spirit of preserving, recognizing and inspiring,



Lee Roy Smith
Executive Director, National Wrestling Hall of Fame



LEE ROY SMITH

TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE >

CELEBRATING CONNECTICUT WRESTLING

5 p.m.	Doors open
5:30 p.m.	Cocktail hour begins
6:30 p.m.	Banquet begins with induction parade
6:40 p.m.	Color guard and national anthem
7 p.m.	Dinner served
8:10 p.m.	Introduction, Ted Oczkowski, president, CT Chapter National Wrestling Hall of Fame
8:15 p.m.	Guest speaker, Joan Fulp
8:30 p.m.	Presentation of inductees, Class of 2022 Connecticut Chapter, National Wrestling Hall of Fame
	Ben Aleks Dr. Erich Doubek
	Frank Kapral Bryan McCarty
	Mike Cunningham Sarah Jadach
	Presentation of jackets
10:30 p.m.	Closing remarks, Ted Oczkowski

GUEST SPEAKER >

WELCOME

It is an honor to be invited to speak at the 2022 banquet for the Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

While I will enjoy sharing a glimpse into the future of women's wrestling with you, tonight we celebrate Connecticut's distinguished members and the first woman to be inducted into your chapter. Each of you as guests, whether family, friends or student/athletes, are here to pay tribute to those who have given heart and soul back to our great sport of wrestling.

So let's sit back, listen to the stories and watch each honoree receive their plaque and those awesome-looking green jackets. Time to celebrate!

Joan

Joan Fulp is USA Wrestling's Girls High School Development Committee co-chair. She is a member of USA Wrestling's Executive Board and is Second Vice President. In 2020, she was the first woman to be elected to the Executive Board. She was inducted into the California Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2017.



JOAN FULP

WELCOME >

Good evening and welcome to our triennial celebration of Connecticut wrestling and the historical Class of 2022. I am privileged and humbled to represent the wrestling community including the Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Over the past three years, we have been challenged by the most unprecedented of times. Our "great" sport of wrestling has had to endure and persevere through a series of retrospections, with the value and merit of wrestling constantly questioned.

In 2013, the International Olympic Committee challenged the value of our great sport, questioning if it should remain part of the Olympic Games. Wrestling survived; it has survived despite the rise and fall of civilizations and the evolution of society.

Wrestling, the second oldest sport known to man, has survived more than 15,000 years. Coupled with the COVID pandemic, the veracity of wrestling has emerged stronger than ever. I invite all of you to celebrate wrestling's resiliency this evening.

Tonight, we celebrate the Class of 2022! What a unique Class, with many "firsts" to celebrate. Long overdue, our chapter is inducting our first woman, Ms. Sarah Jadach. Sarah's induction is also our first 'father-daughter' tandem! Congratulations to Sarah and the Jadach family. We also celebrate the first 'father-son' tandem as Lifetime Service Award recipients. Congratulations to the Cunninghams.

Connecticut also celebrated the completion of its first Girls State Championship Tournament. For the first time, girls were recognized as true "state champions"! We thank the CIAC for embracing girls wrestling.

For the first time, Connecticut has two NHSCA Senior national champions in the same year. Both are in attendance this evening, Ella Nichols of Bristol Eastern High School and Will Ebert of Fairfield Warde High School.

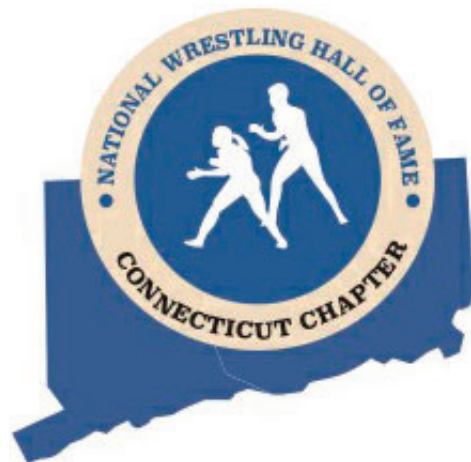
Thank all of you for taking the time to celebrate our sport and reflect on the historical significance wrestling is leaving in the history of Connecticut.

With sincere appreciation and gratitude,

Ted Oczkowski
President, Connecticut Chapter, National Wrestling Hall of Fame



TED OCZKOWSKI





**Members of the Connecticut
Interscholastic Wrestling
Officials Association (CIWOA)
congratulate**

Ben Aleks
and the
Class of 2022

**for their induction into the
Connecticut Chapter of the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame**

BEN ALEKS

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

Ben has been involved in wrestling for nearly 60 years. He wrestled at Cathedral High in Springfield and was the first Cathedral wrestler to step on the mat and compete in 1961 at 103 pounds and won his match with a pin (1:48).

In 1967, he won the New England YMCA championship and finished second at the national YMCA championships.

Ben was the head coach at Cathedral High in Springfield, Mass., for nine years (1969-78) where he had a career record of 118-27-4, coached 21 Western Massachusetts champions, two state champions and one New England runnerup. Ben ran a youth wrestling program at the Springfield YMCA in the early 1970s and was a New England AAU official from 1968-73.

He was named head coach at Fermi High in Enfield (1983-94). In the 1985, the Falcons were second in Class LL and in 1987, Fermi won a CCC East championship and finished second (unofficially) at the State Open. He had a career record of 171-71-2 at Fermi, coaching 11 CIAC state champions and two State Open champions. Fermi finished in the top 10 of the state coaches poll three times. He coached José Navarro, who was named an All-American by Amateur Wrestling News.

Since leaving as head coach, he has been a volunteer assistant with Fermi, Enfield High and the Enfield youth wrestling program. Ben contributed greatly to the construction of a dedicated wrestling practice facility for the Enfield High wrestling program. It was officially dedicated in December 2019 as the Ben Aleks Wrestling Center.

One former athlete called Ben a "tremendous beacon of positive energy." In 2016, Ben was inducted into the Enfield Athletic Hall of Fame.





Congratulations
Mike Cunningham
and the
Class of 2022

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MIKE CUNNINGHAM

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

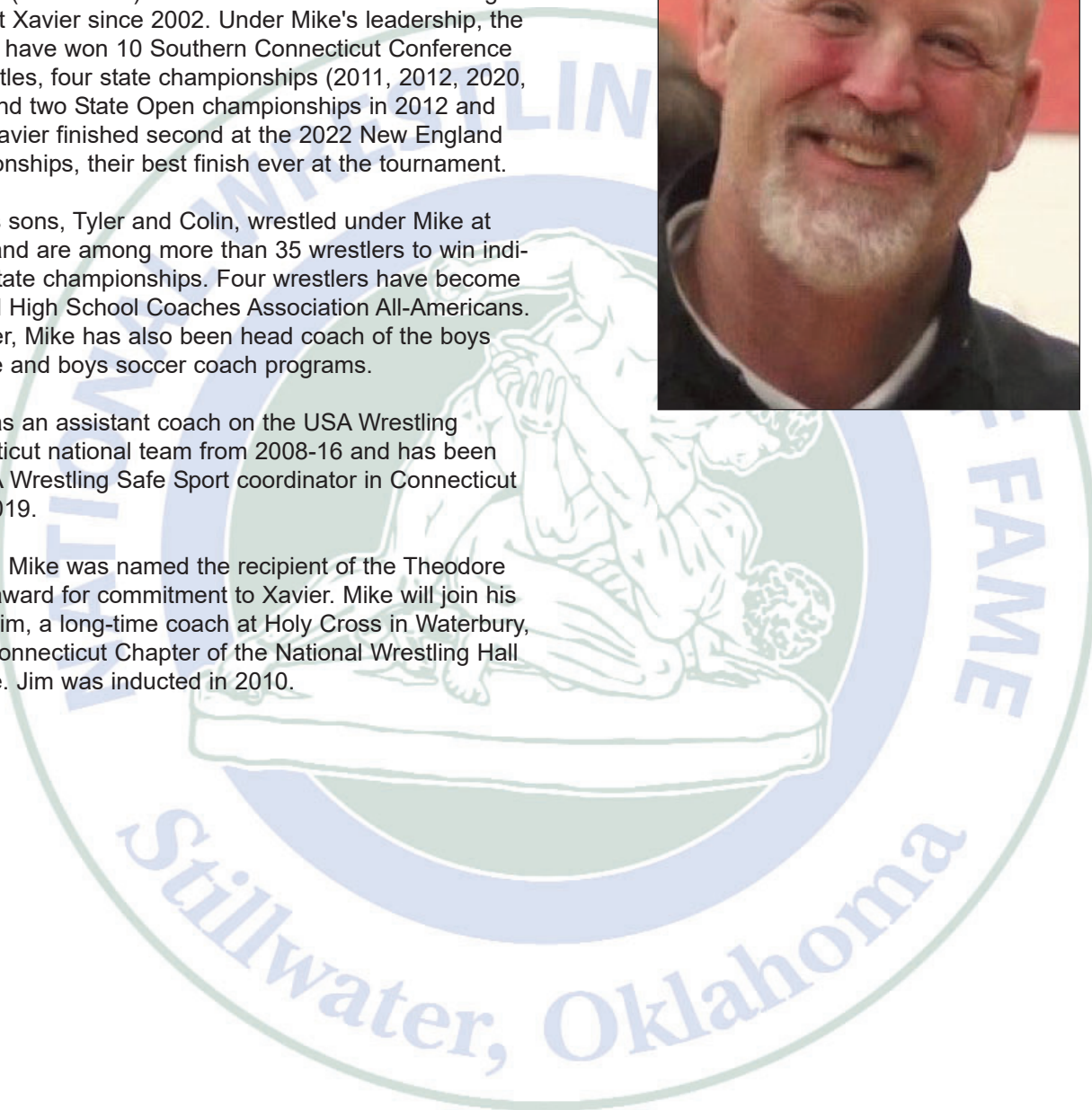
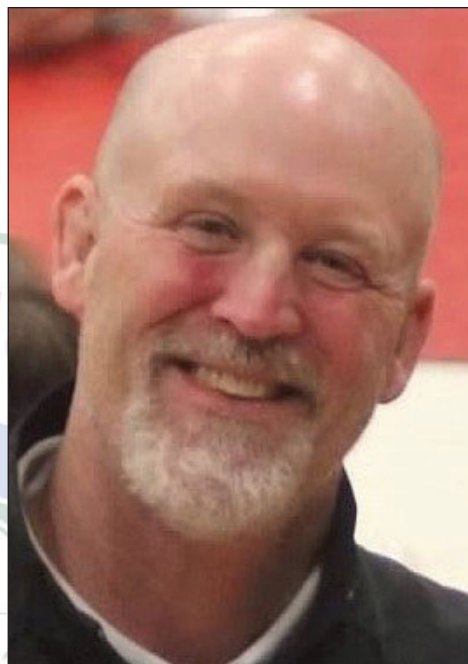
Since graduating from Springfield College, Mike has been coaching for 26 years at the high school and collegiate level. He spent four years at Wesleyan University, including one year as head coach of the Cardinals.

He was the head wrestling coach at Rocky Hill for four seasons (1998-2002) and has been the head wrestling coach at Xavier since 2002. Under Mike's leadership, the Falcons have won 10 Southern Connecticut Conference (SCC) titles, four state championships (2011, 2012, 2020, 2022) and two State Open championships in 2012 and 2022. Xavier finished second at the 2022 New England championships, their best finish ever at the tournament.

Both his sons, Tyler and Colin, wrestled under Mike at Xavier and are among more than 35 wrestlers to win individual state championships. Four wrestlers have become National High School Coaches Association All-Americans. At Xavier, Mike has also been head coach of the boys lacrosse and boys soccer coach programs.

Mike was an assistant coach on the USA Wrestling Connecticut national team from 2008-16 and has been the USA Wrestling Safe Sport coordinator in Connecticut since 2019.

In 2019, Mike was named the recipient of the Theodore Ryken award for commitment to Xavier. Mike will join his father, Jim, a long-time coach at Holy Cross in Waterbury, in the Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Jim was inducted in 2010.





Erich "Doc" Doubek

Husband, Brother, Uncle, Dad, Papa

Congratulations!

We are so proud of you on your well deserved induction! Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for wrestling, the community and our family.

Family first and always.

Love You



DR. ERICH DOUBEK

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

Commonly known as Doc, Erich has helped provide opportunities for students to participate in wrestling for years. He started his involvement with Connecticut wrestling in 1989 when his son joined the New Milford High School wrestling team.

Because of his scientific background, he started tracking his son's stats but that quickly turned to tracking the team's stats. That proceeded shortly to spending hours in the *Danbury News Times* with his wife Neen to obtain the stats dating back to the beginning of New Milford Wrestling in 1972 codifying that in an annually published booklet. Since that time Erich has been New Milford's wrestling historian.

Doc started to help run tournaments and computerized the seeding process saving hours of time. He founded the New Milford Tournament crew, with Bill Knipple, Mike Morris, and Pete Bellagamba, and served as the meet director for more than 80 tournaments, including the Western Connecticut Conference (WCC), Southwest Conference (SWC), Western New England Independent School Wrestling Association (WNEISWA) championship tournaments, Canterbury's annual tournament and New Milford's annual tournament, one of the longest running tournaments in the state (35 years).

In 1998, he and his wife, Neen, were co-founders of the New Milford Wrestling Association, with Erich serving as president from 1998 through 2003. He has served as treasurer from 2014 to present. Along with Mike Morris and Pat Burns he started the New Milford Elementary and Middle School wrestling programs. He organized fundraising golf tournaments for the youth wrestling organization from 1999 through 2004 along with bake sales and tags sales.

Since 2009, Erich has served as vice president and treasurer of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He is cofounder, member of the Board of Directors and treasurer of Connecticut Wrestling, Inc.

In 2005, Doc and Neen instituted and continues to fund the Oma Doubek Wrestling Scholarship awarded to the senior, four-year wrestler with the highest GPA.

Outside of wrestling, Doc is a board member and treasurer of the Northville Cemetery Association; co-founder, board member and treasurer of the Edsands Farm Lane Road Association and was a board member and treasurer of the Northville Residents Association.





*Congratulations to Sarah Jadach
and the
Class of 2022
Connecticut Chapter of the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame*

ctusawrestling.com

SARAH JADACH

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

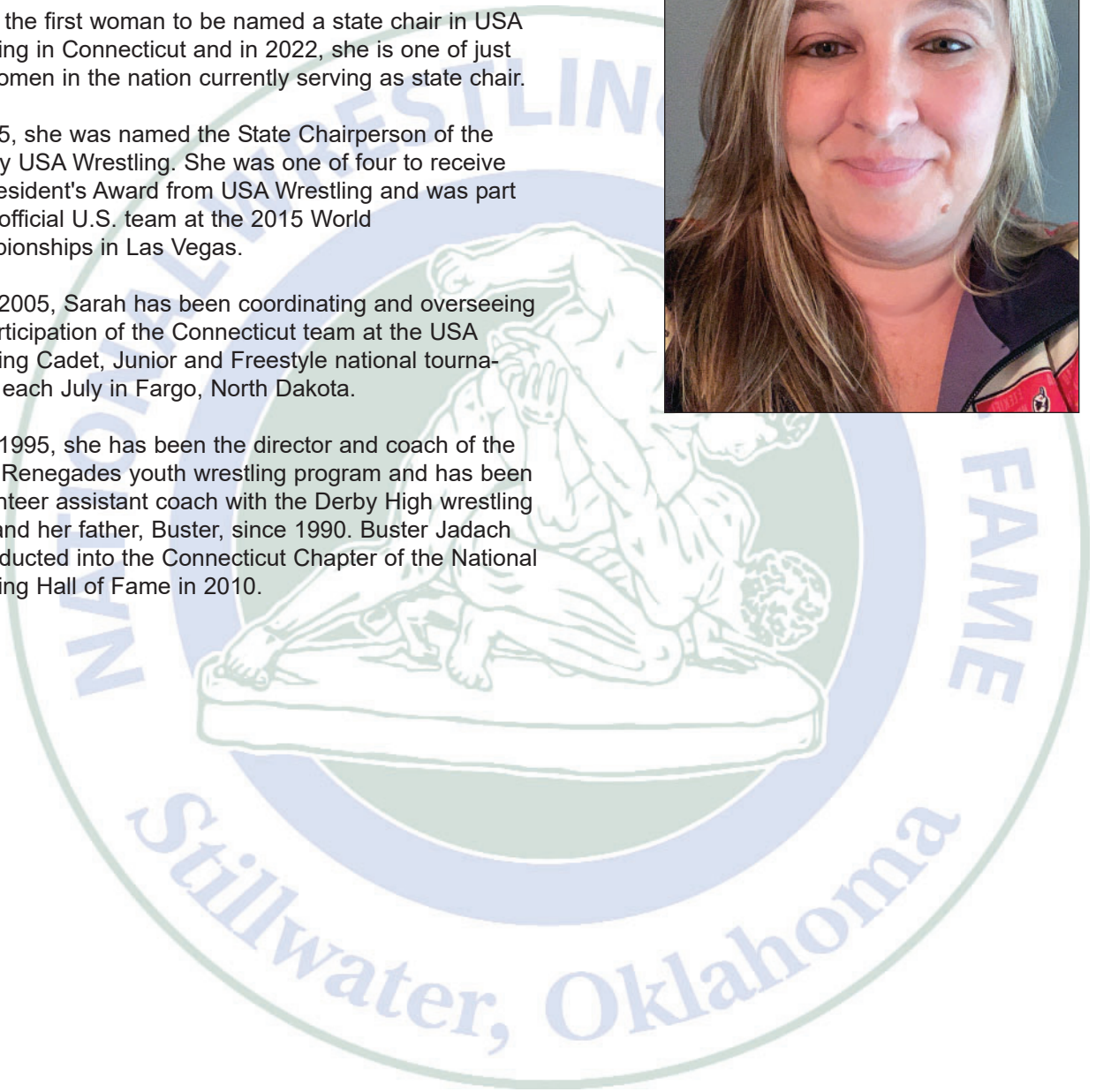
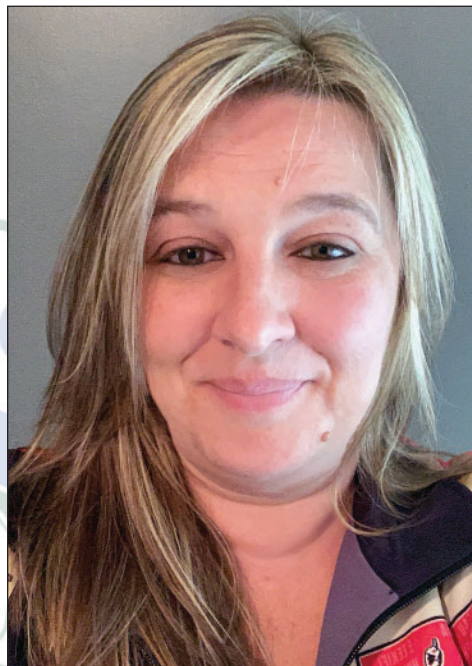
For more than 20 years, Sarah has been part of USA Wrestling Connecticut, providing thousands of boys and girls, as young as age 5, with an opportunity to wrestle and grow. She joined USA Wrestling Connecticut in 1999 as the membership director, became vice chair and in 2009 was named chair of the organization.

She is the first woman to be named a state chair in USA Wrestling in Connecticut and in 2022, she is one of just four women in the nation currently serving as state chair.

In 2015, she was named the State Chairperson of the Year by USA Wrestling. She was one of four to receive the President's Award from USA Wrestling and was part of the official U.S. team at the 2015 World Championships in Las Vegas.

Since 2005, Sarah has been coordinating and overseeing the participation of the Connecticut team at the USA Wrestling Cadet, Junior and Freestyle national tournaments each July in Fargo, North Dakota.

Since 1995, she has been the director and coach of the Derby Renegades youth wrestling program and has been a volunteer assistant coach with the Derby High wrestling team and her father, Buster, since 1990. Buster Jadach was inducted into the Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2010.





Congratulations
Frank Kapral
and the
Class of 2022

With your induction into
the Connecticut Chapter of
the National Wrestling Hall of Fame

The Executive Committee
Connecticut Chapter, National Wrestling Hall of Fame

FRANK KAPRAL

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

The late Captain Frank S. Kapral supported wrestling throughout his life as a coach, official, author and organizer. Frank was the wrestling coach at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London for seven years (1960-66). Under his leadership, Coast Guard finished in the top five in New England five times, taking second in 1960. He had wrestlers qualify for the NCAA Division I tournament five times from 1960-66. He was appointed to the NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee for New England in 1962.

Frank helped wrestling blossom in eastern Connecticut and in the state. He founded the Coast Guard's Small Fry wrestling program in the 1960s for boys ages 4-18 and began the state's first Pee-Wee wrestling league. That interest helped spark varsity wrestling programs in many eastern Connecticut schools. Frank also served as commissioner of the Southern Connecticut Interscholastic Wrestling Officials' Association for nearly 25 years before retiring in 1984. Frank wrote two textbooks, including the Coach's Illustrated Guide to Championship Wrestling in 1964. Frank passed away in March 2020 at the age of 91.

Frank spent 26 years at the Coast Guard where he was an instructor, coach, assistant athletic director and business manager of athletics. Frank was part of the football coaching staff that led Coast Guard to an undefeated season in 1963 and a berth in the Tangerine Bowl in Orlando, Fla. He was head coach of the football team for two seasons in 1966 and 1967.

At the Academy, Kapral served on the permanent commissioned teaching staff and earned his Master of Arts degree in Physical Education. When his coaching days were behind him, he remained a fixture at the Academy, serving as the business manager of athletics until his retirement in 1984, by which time he had risen to the rank of captain.

Born on February 15, 1929 in Courtdale, Pa., Frank was the youngest of five children. He excelled in athletics at Luzerne High School, where he graduated in 1946. He went on to wrestle and play football for Wyoming Seminary in Kingston, Pa.

Frank attended Michigan State University where he was a standout football player and wrestler. He was a national AAU 191-pound champion in wrestling and earned two letters in wrestling at MSU. He earned All-American recognition in football as the starting offensive guard on the undefeated 1951 Michigan State team.

Frank served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.





Congratulations to Coach McCarty!

We are so proud of you for all of your accomplishments, but more importantly for all of the people whose lives you have touched. We love you!

Denise and Bryce



I can't think of any person who is more deserving of this award than you. Your resume speaks for itself. Thank you for introducing me to the sport of wrestling and all of the lessons that have come with it. Congratulations Coach!

Mannash



Far greater than the records you hold, the victories you have won and the trophies you have earned, is the legacy that you have left. All of the people who you have left an impact on is greater than any number of wins anyone can amass.

A True Hall of Famer by every definition of the phrase.

Devyn and Andrew

BRYAN McCARTY

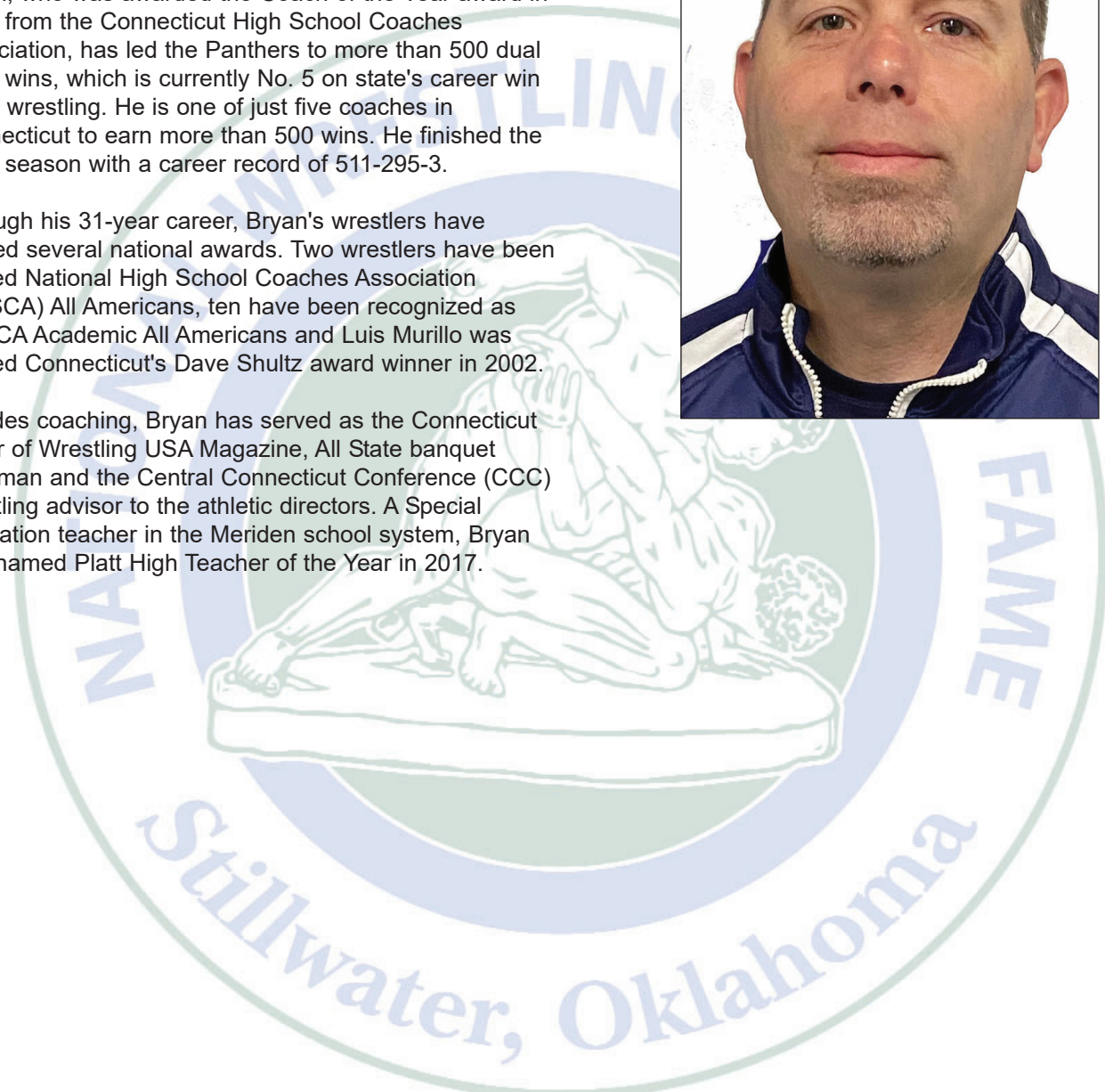
LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

Bryan McCarty began coaching at his alma mater, Platt High in Meriden in the 1990-91 season. After one season on the mat as an assistant, McCarty took over the reigns as head coach. At the time of his hiring, he was believed to be the youngest head coach in America (18 years old).

Bryan, who was awarded the Coach of the Year award in 2012 from the Connecticut High School Coaches Association, has led the Panthers to more than 500 dual meet wins, which is currently No. 5 on state's career win list in wrestling. He is one of just five coaches in Connecticut to earn more than 500 wins. He finished the 2022 season with a career record of 511-295-3.

Through his 31-year career, Bryan's wrestlers have earned several national awards. Two wrestlers have been named National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA) All Americans, ten have been recognized as NHSCA Academic All Americans and Luis Murillo was named Connecticut's Dave Shultz award winner in 2002.

Besides coaching, Bryan has served as the Connecticut editor of Wrestling USA Magazine, All State banquet chairman and the Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) wrestling advisor to the athletic directors. A Special Education teacher in the Meriden school system, Bryan was named Platt High Teacher of the Year in 2017.



Congratulations **COACH BEN ALEKS**

*on your well-deserved induction into the Connecticut Chapter
of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame*



**You have truly made a difference in the lives of Enfield student-athletes for many years.
Your dedication to our youth is beyond parallel. For that, we simply say, Thank You!**

Enfield Athletic Hall of Fame

Congratulations Coach McCarty on your induction to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame!



Outwork everyone- Platt Panther Baseball

*You would be surprised how many shortcomings can be overcome by
hustle! Pete Rose*



CONNECTICUT CHAPTER NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME >

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

Joseph James Alissi

West Hartford
Official

Daryl Arroyo

Springfield, MA
Coach, Springfield College

George F. Beaudry

West Hartford
Coach, Conard High School

John Bennett

Berlin
Coach and Official

Patrick Burns

New Milford
Coach and Official

Mark Cammisa

Danbury
USA Connecticut committee member and coach

John Chaco

Westport
Coach, Staples High and Official

Abraham Chamie

Ivoryton
Coach and Official

Frank Chaves

Simsbury
Coach, Simsbury High and Official

Brian T. Crudden

Windham
Coach, Windham High School

James Cunningham

Waterbury
Coach, Holy Cross High School

Jim Day

Berlin
Coach, Berlin High School

Carmen DelVecchio

Madison
Official

Ken DeStefanis

Rocky Hill
Coach, Central Connecticut State Univ.
and Southington Youth Wrestling

Stephen Eldridge

Salem
Coach, Coast Guard Academy

Walter "Buster" Jadach

Derby
Coach, Derby High School

David F. Kanute

Southington
Coach, co-founder, volunteer,
Southington Youth Wrestling

Rodney G. Leyland

Ledyard
Coach, Ledyard High School

John Lawless

Woodbury
Coach, Nonnewaug High School

Brian Manzi

Southington
Official

Ray Mainville

Meriden
Coach, Maloney High and Official

Michael Morris

Danbury
Coach, Danbury High and Official

Bernard Nasser

Groton
Official and Coach, Fitch-Groton

Arthur B. Powers

Berlin
Official

Franklin H. Robinson

West Hartford
Coach, Hall High School and
White Plains (N.Y.) High School

Glenn R. Rupert

Waterford
Coach, Waterford High School

Robert M. Serrano

Brewster, N.Y.
Coach, Brookfield, New Fairfield High
Schools and Official

Jason Shaughnessy

Fairfield
Coach, Fairfield Warde and Fairfield HS

Rick Sherman

East Lyme
Coach, East Lyme High School

Ricky Shook

Danbury
Coach, Danbury High School

Dennis Siegmann

Bristol
Coach, Bristol Central High School

Carl Snitkin

Norwich
Coach, Norwich Free Academy

Roger Vertefeuille

Hartford
Coach, Bulkeley High School

John A. Vino

Stonington
Official

Arthur Peter Ziegler

Oakdale
Coach, East Lyme and Montville High
Schools

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME >

MEDAL OF COURAGE AWARD

PFC Jeffrey Francis Braun

Stafford
Gave his life in service to his country in Iraq, December 2003

Mark C. Lawrence

Glastonbury
Despite stroke in 2001, long-time coach, official continued coaching and contributing to sport until he retired in 2019

Andrew Levitt

Danbury
Despite cancer treatments, still contributed to Danbury Youth Wrestling Association before passing away in 2005

Erik Weihenmayer

Weston
First man in nation to receive Medal of Courage from National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1996

OUTSTANDING AMERICAN AWARD

Col. Charles Anderson

Coached at Trumbull and Norwalk High
A Bronze Star and Purple Heart recipient, Charles has served in the Connecticut Army National Guard for more than 30 years. He has been the head coach at both Trumbull High and Norwalk High

Gralyn Harris

Wrestled at Holy Cross, UConn
Served 24 years in Army's Military Intelligence Corps across Middle East

Joseph Kapaczewski

Wrestled at Bristol Eastern
Despite losing a leg due to a combat injury, Kapaczewski is an active Army Ranger. He has been on multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Richard M. Larrabee

Wrestled at Coast Guard
Served in Coast Guard for 32 years, retired as Rear Admiral

Michael Morris, Jr.

Wrestled at New Milford
Has served our nation for more than 25 years and is currently a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. Currently an official and former assistant coach at Bacon Academy

Erik Weihenmayer

Wrestled at Weston High
First blind person to reach summit of Mt. Everest

THREE AWARDS FOR INDUCTION INTO HALL OF FAME

The Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame bestows three awards for induction into the Hall of Fame.

LIFETIME SERVICE TO WRESTLING

Given in recognition of years of dedication to the development of leadership and citizenship in the youth through the sport of wrestling.

OUTSTANDING AMERICAN

Given to former wrestlers who are highly successful and use the disciplines learned in wrestling in their chosen profession.

MEDAL OF COURAGE

Presented to a wrestler or former wrestler who has overcome what appear to be insurmountable challenges.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS >

Ted Oczkowski

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Dr. Erich Doubek

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Gerry deSimas, Jr.

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860-460-0217
Kevin.holmgren54@gmail.com



The Board of Directors of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame with Lee Roy Smith (fifth from left) at our 2019 banquet.

Brian Zaccagnino

Director
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NATIONAL CONTACTS

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Krista Graff

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kgraff@nwhof.org

THE CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

The Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame was first established in 2002 under the leadership of Michael Quibble. The chapter held its first induction banquet in 2003 and held additional induction banquets in 2004 and 2005. The chapter was re-established in 2009 by Ted Ozkowski.

STATE CHAPTER PROGRAM

The Board of Governors of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum established the State Chapter program in 1993. The purpose is to pay tribute to those coaches, officials and contributors who represent the best qualities of what the sport of wrestling has to offer and who share those characteristics with young people day in and day out.

Dear Uncle Mike,

Congratulations! We are so happy to see you being honored for all of your hard work throughout the years! You deserve it!
Go Uncle Mike!

Lena, Signe and James

Bryan McCarty

For all that you have done, for all you've become, for all that you are: thank you!
Congratulations on your induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.
We are all proud.

Steven and Masha McCarty

CHAPTER AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENT/ATHLETES

Each year, the Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame awards \$500 scholarships to deserving athletes who will be continuing their education in college this fall.

Scholar Athlete, Career Achievement or the Erik Weinhenmayer Award for excellence on the wrestling mat and overcoming exceptional adversity and challenges.

Athletes can apply for one of three scholarship awards --

Over the past nine years, the chapter has awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to deserving student/athletes.

SCHOLAR ATHLETE

- 2022: Evan Lindner, New Milford
- 2019: Kevin McDonald, Chase Collegiate
- 2018: Demetre Carnot, Maloney
- 2017: Ed Lovely, Newtown
- 2016: Alec Opsal, New Fairfield and Bryan Rojas, New Milford
- 2015: Zack Murillo, Southington
- 2014: Howard Kilpatrick, Bacon Academy
- 2013: Zach Tepper, Danbury
- 2012: Brandon Walsh, Griswold
- 2011: Jake Odell, South Windsor

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

- 2022: Will Ebert, Fairfield Warde
- 2019: Michael Angers, Tolland
- 2017: Baltazar Gonzalez, Ellis Tech
- 2016: Charles Kane, Fairfield Warde
- 2015: Juan (Johnny) Garcia, Danbury
- 2014: Kevin Jack, Danbury
- 2013: Elliott Antler, Xavier
- 2012: Conor Kirkegard, New Milford
- 2011: Patrick Gillen, Shelton

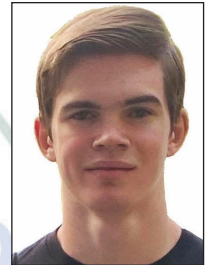
ERIK WEINHENMAYER

- 2018: Jarod Kosman, Fitch
- 2011: Tyler Tilbe, Nonnewaug

2022 SCHOLARSHIPS RECIPIENTS

Scholar-Athlete

New Milford's Evan Lindner was selected to receive the Scholar Athlete award. The senior, who will be attending Washington and Lee next fall, has a weighted grade-point average of 4.32.



LINDNER

In 2022, Evan won the State Open title at 126 pounds along with the Class L and Southwest Conference championship. Evan is a two-time Class L champion and a two-time New England placewinner, finishing second in 2022 and fifth in 2020.

Evan is a member of the National Honor Society and Math Honor Society. He was a student leader in the Wingman Youth Leadership initiative that trains youth leaders to become facilitators to run activities with appropriate adult supervision, in their school, district or club.

Career Achievement

Fairfield Warde's Will Ebert, who had a career record of 153-18, had an outstanding senior season going 51-0 with a National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA) national championship, a New England title and State Open championship. He also won the Class LL and FCIAC tournaments where he was named outstanding wrestler at both events.



EBERT

In his career, Will won two Class LL titles and two FCIAC titles. He was a three-time medalist at the New England tournament and State Open. The 2021 season was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks to Will's vision and leadership, an entrepreneurship class at Fairfield Warde decided to sell hoodie sweatshirts to raise money for the Will to Live Foundation, an organization dedicated to raising awareness about teenage suicide and help people learn about suicide prevention. The initiative raised more than \$20,000 for the Will to Live Foundation.

Will was a volunteer at local youth wrestling practices with Fairfield PAL (Police Athletic League).

Congratulations Coach McCarty on your 30+ year career



Panther Pride



On behalf of the Platt Wrestling team we would like to congratulate Coach McCarty on his induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. We are incredibly proud that coach McCarty will be enshrined for years to come as a symbol of success for Platt and the entire Meriden community. It is a privilege to be under your direction and see you achieve this well deserved success. - Yamile Beltran'



PAIN IS TEMPORARY, PRIDE IS FOREVER!



DONATIONS >

Thank you to the guests that made a donation to meeting the cost of this event when they purchased their tickets for tonight's celebration.

Anonymous
Bob and Cindy Jackson
Brian Crudden
Brian Manzi
C. Roger Moss
Carol Sojka
Caroline Bartosek
Charles and Gillian Anderson
Cindee and Fran DeGennaro
David Hoey
David Nowakowski
Drew Currier
Ernest Goodwin
Gralyn Harris
Joseph Laskowski
Loria Family
Mike Morris, Sr.
Ricardo Gotay
Robert Jackson
Taz Peterson
Thomas Ferrell
Thomas Mills
Tim Rozanski
Todd Reinold
Tyler Cunningham and Meghan Novotny
Tyler Keane
Xavier Wrestling Class of 2009

Bryan McCarty

Congratulations on your induction
into the Connecticut Chapter
of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame

Platt High Student Activity Fund



**Congratulations Sarah on
your induction into the
Connecticut Chapter of
the National Wrestling
Hall of Fame**

*Wrestling has always been
a part of your life. Keep up
the great work you are
doing for the sport of
wrestling in Derby
and in Connecticut.*

Aunt Cindee and Uncle Fran



Congrats Dad!

*Love,
Ziva and
Kira*

Congratulations

Class of 2022

**on your induction into the
Connecticut Chapter of the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame**

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Congratulations Doc

*Mike and Mary Morris
and Family*

**Congratulations on your
induction into the
Connecticut Chapter of the
National Wrestling Hall Fame**



We are so happy for you and your family
This is a well-deserved honor.
We love working with you as the
State Chairperson of USA Wrestling Connecticut

The Cammisa Family



CONGRATULATIONS DOC!
WITH ALL OF THE LOVE, GRATITUDE, AND RESPECT
FROM THE NEW MILFORD GREEN WAVE
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Congratulations, Sarah!

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CONGRATULATIONS, DOC

ON YOUR INDUCTION INTO THE
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER OF THE
NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

Patrick Burns

Congratulations
Mike Cunningham
and the
Class of 2022

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BRYAN MCCARTY

We are so proud of your induction into the
Connecticut Chapter of the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame!

CONGRATULATIONS



THE PLATT ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



**We love you
Ra Ra**

So Proud of Who You Are
and What You Do

Love – Mom, Dad, Jenn, Scott, Shea and Susie

Sarah

You Give

So Much

Tonight is for You. ENJOY IT!!!
Congratulations on This Well-Deserved Honor

DERBY WRESTLING

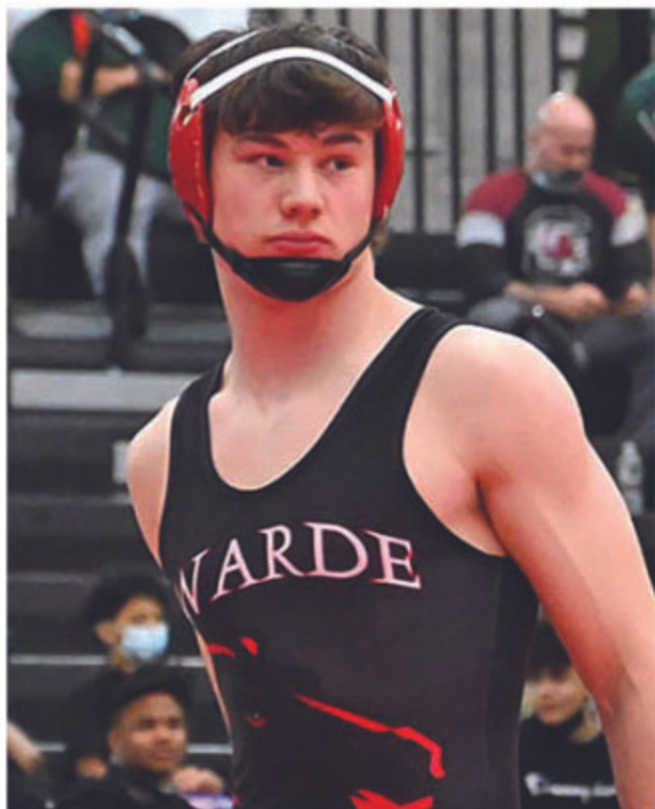
Great job, Mike!



There are many people proud of you. We are fortunate to have your family and you in our circle of friends.

*With Love,
The Oczkowski Family*

The Cunningham Legacy continues.



Congratulations

Will Ebert and Ella Nichols
2022 NHSCA national champions

*Connecticut's nominees for
the Dave Schultz Excellence Award
and the Tricia Saunders Excellence Award*

Executive Committee
Connecticut Chapter of the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame



Congratulations Mike!

**From the “lippers”
to State Championships,
it has been a long, inspiring journey!**

We are proud of you.

The Jackson Family

The Jackson Family also congratulates the Class of 2022 as well as the state wrestlers being honored tonight!

XAVIER FALCONS



CHAMPIONS



Congratulations
to our Hall of
Fame coach!

Your 2020
Class L State
Championship
Team

Congratulations
to Mike and all
of the 2022
inductees



**Welcome to the
Hall of Fame!!**



*Jim Cunningham
Class of 2010*

Bryan McCarty

From the officers and members of
American Legion Kiltonic Post 72,
Southington and the Sons of American
Legion Squadron 72, our sincerest
congratulation on your induction into the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame

Congratulations Bryan
What an amazing accomplishment!
We are so happy for you.

Nana, Papa, Sue, Mary, Bekky, Emely, Matt,
Matty, Brandon and T

Congratulations Doc!

The CT Chapter owes you a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Without your guidance, advice and knowledge, we would not have been able to resurrect the Chapter.

Thank you for all you do for others, and what you do for our family!



The Oczkowski's



BRYAN MCCARTY

Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame

What a prestigious and well-deserved honor.

Congratulations!

Steve and Trish

Congratulations

COACH MIKE CUNNINGHAM

3
2
2
10

× **CLASS 1L STATE CHAMPION**
2011 & 2012

× **CLASS L STATE CHAMPION**
2020 & 2022

× **STATE OPEN CHAMPION**
2012 & 2022

× **SCC TOURNAMENT CHAMPION**
2003 · 2011 · 2012 · 2014 · 2015 · 2017 · 2018 · 2019 · 2020 · 2022



CLASS 1L STATE RUNNER-UP
2018

CLASS L STATE RUNNER-UP
2009 · 2014 · 2017

STATE OPEN RUNNER-UP
2019

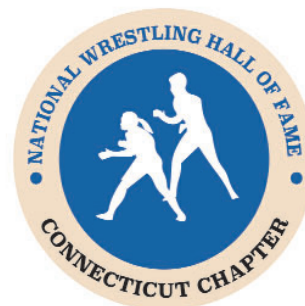


NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME · *Connecticut Chapter*



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